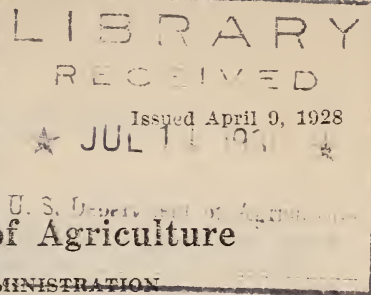


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## United States Department of Agriculture

FOOD, DRUG, AND INSECTICIDE ADMINISTRATION

### SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS

R2  
Caustic Poison No. 2

## ACCEPTABLE ANTIDOTES FOR DANGEROUS CAUSTIC OR CORROSIVE SUBSTANCES COVERED BY THE FEDERAL CAUSTIC POISON ACT

### INTRODUCTION

The Federal caustic poison act (sec. 2 (a)) names 12 materials which are classified as dangerous caustic or corrosive substances.

The law defines "misbranded parcel, package, or container" (sec. 2 (b)) as a retail parcel, package, or container of any dangerous caustic or corrosive substance not bearing a conspicuous, easily legible label or sticker, containing the information called for by the act. The required information includes "directions for treatment in case of accidental personal injury by any dangerous caustic or corrosive substance, except that such directions need not appear on labels or stickers, on parcels, packages, or containers at the time of shipment or of delivery for shipment by manufacturers and wholesalers for other than household use." (Sec. 2 (b) (4).)

The regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture for the enforcement of the act, provide, in part, that—

(f) Except as provided in paragraph (g) of this regulation, the container shall in all cases bear upon the label or sticker thereof, immediately following the word "Poison," directions for treatment in the case of internal personal injury; in addition, if the substance may cause external injury, directions for appropriate treatment shall be given. The directions shall prescribe such treatments for personal injury as are sanctioned by competent medical authority, and the materials called for by such directions shall be, whenever practicable, such as are usually available in the household.

(g) Manufacturers and wholesalers only, at the time of shipment or delivery for shipment, are exempted from placing directions for treatment on the label or sticker of any container for other than household use, but in any event the information required by section 2 (b), (1), (2), and (3) of the act and these regulations shall be given.

(h) A person who receives from a manufacturer or wholesaler any container which under the conditions set forth in section 2 (b) (4) of the act and regulation 3 (g) does not bear at the time of shipment directions for treatment in the case of personal injury must place such directions on the label or sticker if he offers such container for general sale or exchange.

### ANTIDOTES

For the benefit and guidance of those interested, there are published herein internal and external antidotes which, in the light of present knowledge and information, are regarded as acceptable treatments in the case of accidental injury by the dangerous caustic or corrosive substances covered by the Federal caustic poison act. These antidotes have received the approval of competent medical authorities.

#### HYDROCHLORIC ACID

*External.*—Wipe off the acid gently, immediately flood the surface with water, using soap freely, then cover with moist magnesia or baking soda.

*Internal.*—Drink a teaspoonful or more of magnesia, chalk, whiting, or wall plaster, or small pieces of soap softened with water, in milk, mucilage, or raw-egg white.

*Call physician.*

**SULPHURIC ACID**

*External.*—Wipe off the acid gently, immediately flood the surface with water, using soap freely, then cover with moist magnesia or baking soda.

*Internal.*—Drink a teaspoonful or more of magnesia, chalk, whiting, or wall plaster, or small pieces of soap softened with water, in milk, mucilage, or raw-egg white.

*Call physician.*

**NITRIC ACID**

*External.*—Wipe off the acid gently, immediately flood the surface with water, using soap freely, then cover with moist magnesia or baking soda.

*Internal.*—Drink a teaspoonful or more of magnesia, chalk, whiting, or wall plaster, or small pieces of soap softened with water, in milk, mucilage, or raw-egg white.

*Call physician.*

**CARBOLIC ACID**

*External.*—Flood with water and bathe with dilute alcohol or whisky, or a bland oil (olive, cottonseed, linseed).

*Internal.*—Give milk, raw-egg white, mucilage, gruel, or cornstarch paste, and follow with an emetic (tablespoonful of mustard in a tumbler of warm water).

*Call physician.*

**OXALIC ACID**

*External.*—Wash with water.

*Internal.*—Give magnesia, chalk, or whiting suspended in much water. Follow with emetic (tablespoonful of mustard in a tumbler of warm water).

*Call physician.*

**SALT OF OXALIC ACID**

*Internal.*—Give magnesia, chalk, or whiting suspended in much water. Follow with emetic (tablespoonful of mustard in a tumbler of warm water).

*Call physician.*

**ACETIC ACID**

*External.*—Wash with water.

*Internal.*—Give magnesia, chalk, or whiting, in water.

*Call physician.*

**HYPOCHLOROUS ACID**

*External.*—Wash with water.

*Internal.*—Drink mucilage, raw-egg white, milk, or rice gruel. Follow with emetic (tablespoonful of mustard in a tumbler of warm water).

*Call physician.*

**SODIUM HYDROXIDE**

*External.*—Flood with water, then wash with vinegar.

*Internal.*—Give vinegar, or juice of lemon, grapefruit, or orange, copiously. Follow with olive oil.

*Eyes.*—Wash out with 5 per cent boric-acid solution.

*Call physician.*

**POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE**

*External.*—Flood with water, then wash with vinegar.

*Internal.*—Give vinegar, or juice of lemon, grapefruit, or orange, copiously. Follow with olive oil.

*Eyes.*—Wash out with 5 per cent boric-acid solution.

*Call physician.*

AMMONIUM HYDROXIDE

*External.*—Flood with water, then wash with vinegar.

*Internal.*—Give vinegar, or juice of lemon, grapefruit, or orange, copiously. Follow with olive oil.

*Eyes.*—Wash out with 5 per cent boric-acid solution.

*Call physician.*

SILVER NITRATE

*External.*—Wash with water, then salt solution.

*Internal.*—Give copious drafts of table salt in water, followed by an emetic (tablespoonful of mustard in a tumbler of warm water). Then administer a dose of magnesium sulphate (Epsom salts) and follow with milk, raw egg, or boiled starch.

*Call physician.*



